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1. In assessing the competence and political reliability of Czechoslovak Army officers, the officer corps can be divided into three groups.
 - a. Pre-war regular army officers. This group, consisting of officers trained prior to the war, comprises about 40 percent of the entire officer corps. Well trained, some of these officers have had combat experience. For the most part this experience was obtained on the eastern front. Most of the officers who saw service in the west have been purged. It is estimated that of this group approximately 25 percent are supporters of the Communist regime and 75 percent are against the regime.
 - b. Post-war graduates of officer training schools. The competence of officers trained after the war varies with the amount of training received. Graduates of two-year training courses are qualified to command platoons. Additional training, which at present is not being given, would be necessary before they could competently command larger units. However, because of the shortage of regular army officers, many such officers are company commanders. Graduates of one-year courses are very inadequately trained. They are hardly qualified to command platoons. Because their training is given in such a hasty manner, it is doubtful that much of it is retained. Post-war graduates comprise from 40 to 50 percent of the officer corps. It is estimated that approximately 75 percent of this group are supporters of the regime and 25 percent are against the regime.
 - c. Reserve officers recalled to active duty. This group comprises from 10 to 20 percent of the officer corps and is composed of officers activated from the reserves and given regular army commissions not because of their professional qualifications, but usually because of their political

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activities on behalf of the regime. These officers are favored by cadre sections, and usually are quickly promoted and put into command. In many cases their performance is so poor that they have to be relieved of their commands and assigned to less responsible positions. This entire group of officers can be regarded as loyal to the regime.

2. Few officers in the Czechoslovak Army have been trained in Soviet military schools. It is estimated that not more than twenty are currently being sent to the Soviet Union annually for training. These men receive an intensive three-month training course in Prague prior to their departure, during which they receive thorough preparatory training in politics and the Russian language. While in the Soviet Union they are kept in strict seclusion and are not allowed to make friends with their Russian colleagues. The majority return thoroughly indoctrinated with Soviet military doctrine and training methods and are usually assigned to positions connected with combat training.
3. There exists, on a small scale, an exchange of officers between the Czechoslovak and Polish armies. Officers returning from Poland maintain that under the Polish Minister of National Defense, Marshal Konstantin Rokossowski, the Polish army has adapted its organization and training to the Soviet pattern far more than is the case in Czechoslovakia. These officers stated that some Polish units are actually commanded by Soviet officers.

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